Amendments To The Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown.

1 – 10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A shaft bearing assembly for axially mounting a rotor of a gas turbine and for selective movement of the rotor along a thrust axis of the rotor, comprising:

a bearing body having first and second opposing track sides, the first track side positionable along the axis and adjacent a first stop surface on the rotor to transfer a first force in a first direction along the thrust axis, the second track side positionable along the axis and adjacent a second stop surface on the rotor to transfer a second force in a second direction along the axis, wherein the second direction is opposite the first direction;

a first hydraulic piston element positioned in the bearing body to exert the first force in the first direction and against the first stop surface, the first piston element configured to effect movement of the rotor by transfer of the first force;

a second hydraulic piston element positionable in the bearing body to exert the second force in the second direction and against the second stop surface, the second piston element configured to effect movement of the rotor by transfer of the second force, the first and second elements each comprising a plurality of hydraulic pistons, each piston operatively positioned in a different piston chamber to effect one of the first or second forces, operation of the first or second of the forces through the first or second piston element alternately causing displacement of the rotor along the first and second direction from a first operating position into a second operating position; ~~and~~

a hydraulic system, including a hydraulic pump, connected to generate the first and second forces with the pump causing hydraulic fluid to act on the pistons of the first and second elements, the hydraulic system including a first flow path extending to pistons in the first element and a second flow path extending to pistons in the second element; and

a first flow control valve positioned between the first piston element and the hydraulic system and a second flow control valve positioned between the second piston element and the hydraulic system, wherein:

one or more piston chambers in the first element are hydraulically connected to one or more piston chambers in the second element through a control valve selectively connecting the first flow path to the second flow path so that when the first piston element effects movement of the rotor, hydraulic fluid is displaced from one or more chambers of the second element toward the hydraulic system; and

to limit the displacement speed of the rotor, at least one restrictor is positioned between the first piston element and the hydraulic system and at least one second restrictor is positioned between the second piston element and the hydraulic system; and

the restrictors and flow control valves are configured so that the restrictors only limit displacement speed of the rotor in the event of a fault whereas the flow control valves limit admissible displacement speed of the rotor during intended displacement.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The shaft bearing assembly as claimed in claim 11~~12~~, wherein each restrictor is formed with a flow-control valve.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The shaft bearing system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the piston chambers are fluidically connected to one another.

16. (previously presented) The shaft bearing system as claimed in claim 11, wherein each hydraulic piston element is of annular design.

17. (previously presented) The shaft bearing system as claimed in claim 11, wherein when the system is assembled on the rotor, the at least one restrictor limits the displacement speed of the rotor only in the event of a fault.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A shaft bearing system for axially mounting a rotor of a gas turbine, comprising:

a rotationally fixed bearing body that has first and second hydraulic piston arrangements, formed separately from one another at opposing positions along the bearing body, each configured to transfer a hydraulic force for axially displacing the rotor in a different direction and between a first operating position and a second operating position; and

a hydraulic system, fluidically connected by a fluid flow path to both of the hydraulic piston arrangements, to generate forces for displacing the rotor in each of the different directions,

wherein to limit the displacement speed of the rotor, (i) at least one restrictor is arranged in the fluid flow path between each hydraulic piston arrangement and the hydraulic system and (iii) the two hydraulic piston arrangements are fluidically connected to one another through a 4/2-way directional control valve to selectively operate the first and second piston arrangements to displace the rotor with hydraulic forces generated by the hydraulic system or fluidically connect the piston arrangements to limit displacement speed of the rotor and (iii) a first flow control valve is positioned between the first piston element and the hydraulic system and a second flow control valve positioned between the second piston element and the hydraulic system, and

wherein the restrictors and flow control valves are configured so that the restrictors only limit displacement speed of the rotor in the event of a fault whereas the flow control valves limit admissible displacement speed of the rotor during intended displacement.

20. (canceled)